

TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
COUNCIL ON AGING
SEPTEMBER 16, 2013
SENIOR CENTER
10:00 AM

Members Present: Jeff Browne, Chairman
Kathy Staropoli, Vice Chairman
Dorris Van Deusen
Carol Sica
Dick Magenis, Secretary
Anne Hyatt, Treasurer
David Smith, Jr
Helen Johnston
Michelle Harwood
Annie Ryder

Others Present: John Arthur Miller, Senior Center Director
Nadine Hawver, Assistant to the Director

Chairman Browne called the meeting to order at 10:31 AM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes of the August 16, 2013 meeting were presented for approval. Motion to approve made by Michelle Harwood, seconded by Helen Johnston. The motion carried unanimously.

EXPENSE REPORT:

Director Miller gave a budget update.

General discussion with a few specific questions. Motion to approve made by Dorris Van Deusen, seconded by Dick Magenis. The motion carried unanimously.

DIRECTOR REPORT:

Building Improvements – JA told the board that the improvements to the lounge area are nearly complete. The new furniture, gallery hanging system and the relocation of the Elm have been completed. The response has been overwhelmingly positive. He also brought to the board's attention that there are a few repair issues with the building that have been communicated to Administrator LaBombard.

Program Updates – Nadine mentioned that our summer projects were well attended and that we are looking to begin new programs for the fall and winter.

Director Miller mentioned the Transportation forum being created by the local churches to address the transportation needs within the community. He will approach the Select board about hosting that event here at the senior center. This forum is scheduled for November 12th at 5:30PM.

John-Arthur has been asked to be interviewed on October 7th for Senior TV which will be aired at a later date.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Miller reminded the Board that the MCOA Conference is taking place in Sturbridge on Oct 2, 3 & 4. He and Nadine will be attending. Volunteers to man the center while we are out of the office are being sought. Miller also mentioned that if anyone from the COA is interested in attending there is the opportunity to attend for free as a volunteer allowing for the volunteers to participate in the various seminars. Board members Staropoli and Johnston both expressed an interest.

Vice - Chairman Staropoli informed the Board that Sheffield In Celebration was a nice event with good intergenerational activity at our table with many grandparents w/ grandchildren taking advantage of the photo opportunity.

Mr. Miller brought to the attention of the Board that the Friends of the Sheffield Senior Center have agreed to provide up to 5 scholarships for individuals interested in attending the upcoming Navigation for Caregivers

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Miller announced the development of a Monthly Exercise Club. \$20 per month will entitle people who want to come to any and all classes. We currently charge \$3 a class and people can still choose pay by the class. We are hoping to encourage new participants with the lower fee schedule if they attend more than 7 classes a month.

The police department will be using the center to hold RAD classes in October.

Michelle Harwood presented an update on the activity of the Friends.

Kathy Staropoli mentioned the need to coordinate the applications for Cultural Council Grants with the Friends. We are working on the possibility of 3 programs.

Dick Magenis brought up some thoughts on future programs – Kathy Staropoli suggested a program committee meeting for the 18th.

Chairman Browne read a memo from the Select board asking for a member of the COA to join the Community Development Strategy Committee – Helen Johnston volunteered to serve as the COA's representative. David Smith Jr made a motion to appoint Helen to the CDSC, motion was seconded by Michelle Harwood – approved unanimously.

Chairman Browne also brought to the Board's attention that John-Arthur is being recognized by the Sheffield Kiwanis with a Lifetime Achievement award on Saturday October 5th. Jeff asked for COA members to consider joining the event in support of JA.

There was a discussion about the need for a storage unit for chairs similar to what we have for the folding tables. John Arthur will chat with Dale Smith about a design and cost.

Public Comment – none

The next meeting will be on Wednesday October 16, 2013 at 9:00AM

Dorris Van Deusen moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Helen Johnston. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Browne adjourned the meeting at 11:35 AM.

Respectfully submitted:

Nadine A Hawver

Assistant to the Director